

THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS' MILLENNIAL STAR.

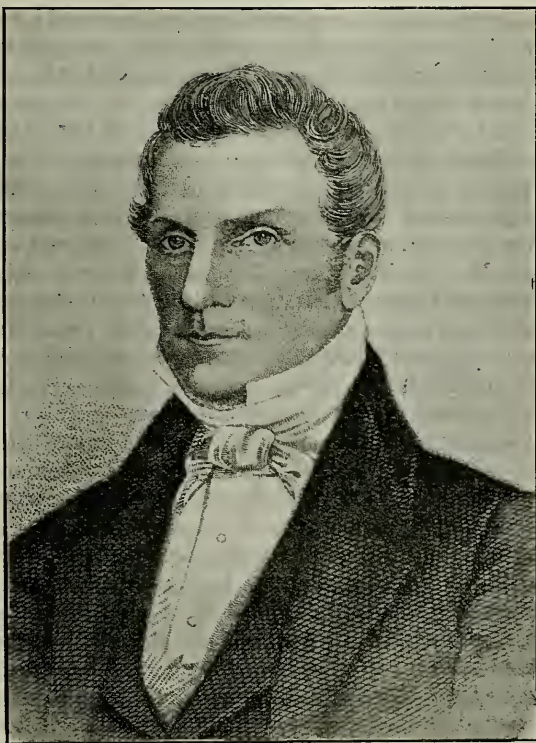
[ESTABLISHED 1840.]

"Where there is no vision, the people perish."—PROV. 29: 18.

No. 52, Vol. LXVII.

Thursday, December 28, 1905.

Price One Penny.



PATRIARCH HYRUM SMITH.

PATRIARCH HYRUM SMITH.

HYRUM SMITH, second counselor to President Joseph Smith from 1837 to 1841, was the second son of Joseph Smith and Lucy Mack, and was born February 9th, 1800, at Tunbridge, Vermont. He removed with his father's family to western New York when about nineteen years old. He married Jerusha Barden, at Manchester, N. Y., November 2nd, 1826, by whom he had six children, Lovina, Mary, John, Hyrum, Jerusha, and Sarah. He became a widower October 13th, 1837, while absent at Far West, Mo., and married Mary Fielding the same year, by whom he had two children, Joseph F., and Martha. Like his brother Joseph, Hyrum spent his early years in agricultural labors, and nothing of particular note characterized that period of his life. He speedily became a believer in Joseph's mission, and by him was baptized in Seneca lake, in June, 1829. He was one of the eight persons permitted to view the plates from which the Book of Mormon was translated, and his name is prefixed to it as a witness. November 7th, 1837, at a conference assembled in Far West, Mo., he was appointed second counselor to President Joseph Smith, instead of Frederick G. Williams, who was rejected. January 19th, 1841, he was called by revelation to take the office of Patriarch to the whole Church, to which he had been appointed by his deceased father, by blessing and also by birthright, and was likewise appointed a Prophet, Seer, and Revelator. He was personally connected with many of the principal events of the Church, up to the time of his death, and in the various offices he filled won the love and esteem of all persons. In the revelation calling him to be the chief Patriarch, the Lord thus spoke of him: "Blessed is my servant Hyrum Smith, for I the Lord love him, because of the integrity of his heart, and because he loveth that which is right before me, saith the Lord." He was tenderly attached to his brother Joseph, whom he never left more than six months at one time, during their lifetime. He was arrested with him at Far West, Mo., and imprisoned with him at Liberty, and finally spilt his blood with him at Carthage, Ill., June 27th, 1844. In this catastrophe he fell first, exclaiming, "I am a dead man," and Joseph responding, "O dear Brother Hyrum!" In the "Times and Seasons" we find the following beautiful eulogy: "He lived so far beyond the ordinary walk of man, that even the tongue of the vilest slanderer could not touch his reputation. He lived godly, and he died godly, and his murderers will yet have to confess that it would have been better for them to have had a millstone tied to them, and have been cast into the depths of the sea, and remain there while eternity goes and eternity comes, than to have robbed that noble man of heaven of his life."

Of his brother Hyrum, Joseph said on one occasion:

"There was brother Hyrum, who next took me by the hand—a natural brother. Thought I to myself: Brother Hyrum, what a faithful heart you have got! Oh, may the Eternal Jehovah crown eternal blessings upon your head, as a reward for the care you have had for my soul! Oh, how many are the sorrows we have shared together! and again we find ourselves shackled by the unrelenting hand of oppression. Hyrum, thy name shall be written in the Book of the Law of the Lord, for those who come after to look upon, that they may pattern after thy works."

DISTINCTIVE TEACHINGS OF JOSEPH SMITH.

BY ELDER RICHARD W. YOUNG, PRESIDENT OF THE ENSIGN STAKE OF ZION.

JOSEPH SMITH'S claim to divine authority may be tested by the doctrines he taught. If these lead us out from the dark, narrow cells of current theology into the sunlight of truth, where, in every direction are unlimited and soul-satisfying vistas of the goodness and greatness of God, then may we not pronounce these doctrines divine?

Some of the distinguishing doctrines taught by Joseph Smith are: that all the Christian churches were wrong, because the inhabitants of the earth had transgressed the laws, changed the ordinances, and broken the everlasting covenant; that this great fact was declared to Joseph Smith by an angel flying in the midst of heaven; that the everlasting Gospel was committed to him with authority to preach it unto them that dwell on the earth, to every nation, kindred, tongue, and people; that he took not this authority unto himself, but was commissioned thereunto, by the laying on of hands, by heavenly messengers who themselves had the authority in the days of Christ; that apostles, prophets, teachers, miracles, gifts of healing, helps, governments, and diversities of tongues are necessary to the true faith; that the signs follow them that believe; that the Bible is the word of God so far as it is translated correctly, but it is not a sufficient guide in matters of faith, since God has revealed, does now reveal, and will yet reveal many great and important things not recorded in the scriptures; that this Gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations, and then shall the end come; that blessed are ye when men shall hate you and revile you and say all manner of evil against you falsely for the Son of man's sake; that God has body, parts, and passions, and created man in His own image; that the resurrected man will consist of his soul and resurrected body; that there is a salvation for all men, either in this world or in the world to come, who have not committed the unpardonable sin; that the Gospel will be preached to the dead that they may be judged according to men in the flesh; that baptism of water being necessary to salvation, the living may be baptized vicariously for the dead; that under the Holy Spirit of promise men and women may be married not merely for time but for all eternity; that children who die before they arrive at the age of accountability receive salvation; that all men have absolute free agency, being free to choose liberty and eternal life or captivity and death; that men will be punished for their own sins, and not for Adam's transgression, and will be judged according to their works and the desires of their hearts; that a man cannot be saved in ignorance, since until he acquires knowledge he is liable to be brought into captivity to some evil power having greater knowledge; that in the resurrection of the dead there are many mansions differing from each other in glory as the sun, moon, and stars differ from each other; that in heaven there is opportunity for endless progression, and that man by righteous perseverance may reach divine heights of power and majesty.

ONE PROPHECY.

BY ELDER WARREN H. LYON, PRESIDENT OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN
MISSION.

JOSEPH SMITH was in his eighteenth year when he first saw the sacred plates of the Book of Mormon. The Angel Moroni told him at that time that the knowledge which the record contained should go to every nation and kindred and tongue and people under the whole heaven; and that his name should be known among the nations, for the work which the Lord would perform by his hands would cause the righteous to rejoice and the wicked to rage. With the one it should be had in honor, and with the other in reproach. To those that opposed the work it should be a terror, because of the great and marvelous work which should follow this coming forth of the fulness of the Gospel. Most of the prophecy given above is also found in the Book of Mormon. It was, therefore, copyrighted before the Prophet was twenty-four years old, and immediately printed and given to the world.

Telegraphs, telephones, passenger trains, ocean steamships, and other speedy means of communication were unknown. Christianity itself in eighteen hundred years had been heard by only a small portion of the inhabitants of the globe. No human mind anticipated such marvellous means of communication between all parts of the known earth as we have at the present time.

Men that accompanied the first explorers of interior Africa have lived to see the *Train de luxe* penetrate beyond the Victoria Falls. Asia is awaking from the sleep of ages. In America the "terrible ones" have given place to "a multitude of strangers" "at an instant suddenly." And wherever the daily doings of the world are flashed, the work founded by the Prophet Joseph Smith is known. Not long since newspapers in the far interior of Africa published sensational telegrams regarding the "Mormons." No Elders as yet have reached those places, but the people there have heard enough of the restored Gospel to prevent them from ever saying "This thing was done in a corner."

The latter-day work was also to be feared. It proclaimed that all who were willing to lay aside prejudice, and ask of God which of all the churches is right, and continue asking until they received an answer of peace, should come to a unity of the faith. Such was the stirring axiom that this re-revealed Christianity gave to the world. Henceforth false doctrines could be subjected to an unerring test. For this reason people are persuaded in every conceivable manner, by those who know not the Latter-day Saints, to avoid contact with them.

The South African mission is a witness to the nations that the Gospel has gone to the ends of the earth. The above prophecy seems to have a special fitness in connection with the celebration in this land of the Prophet's hundredth birthday. The Saints here send greetings to the Saints throughout the world, and are one with them in celebrating the day that gave us our beloved founder.

HISTORY REPEATING ITSELF.

BY ELDER HUGH J. CANNON, PRESIDENT OF THE LIBERTY STAKE OF ZION.

NEARLY twenty centuries ago a young man lived upon the earth who made startling claims to divine authority. Some few believed in Him, but by the vast majority He was ridiculed, scorned, and finally put to death. It was Jesus Christ, through whose precious blood we are redeemed and enabled to obtain eternal life; and about five hundred millions of the earth's inhabitants acknowledge Him to-day as the greatest being that ever ministered among men in the flesh, and testify that obedience to His laws brings life everlasting.

One century ago a babe was born who grew to manhood and also made claims to a divine calling which startled mankind. This was Joseph Smith. A little over sixty-one years have elapsed since he met the fate of a martyr at Carthage, Illinois, like his great prototype, sealing his testimony with his blood. At that time there were comparatively few who accepted the claims which were put forth; but during the intervening years a gradual change of heart is apparent. Many thousands have become convinced that eternal life will be the reward given those who strictly adhere to the course which he pointed out, and they are endeavoring in all soberness to pursue this course to the end. It is a singular fact that to a great extent those who were responsible in bringing this man to his death professed love and veneration for his Master whom he represented. Had these men lived in the days of the Savior, they would have joined with those who nailed our Lord to the cross. At the present time there is a similar class of believers in the Prophet Joseph Smith; men acknowledge him as a prophet who would have opposed and ridiculed him had they lived in his day. This is indicated by the hatred which they display towards his successors, men who have the same authority that he had, and, making due allowance for the difference of individuality, are doing the same work which he would be doing if he were with us.

The old principle of honoring the dead prophets and stoning the living ones is manifest to a remarkable degree. It is a repetition of what has occurred in the past—not only once, but every time a prophet has been called to labor for the advancement of the Lord's work. The living servants of God have been beaten and cast out, and many of them have even been slain, and at the same time their persecutors have almost invariably professed the greatest love for and faith in their predecessors. In the opinion of people of this class, Jesus was not needed, because they had the words of Moses and the ancient prophets; Joseph Smith was not needed because the world had the words of the Savior; present prophets are not needed because we have, in addition to the others, the words of Joseph Smith. And every inspired teacher has had this same peculiar trait of human nature to contend with.

There are at present whole communities who profess to revere Joseph Smith as a prophet of the Most High, but who reject many of the salient principles which he taught, the vital question of authority being entirely overlooked or misunderstood by them. Of these there is little danger. Far

more dangerous are the efforts of men who testify that Joseph Smith was a prophet, with all the authority which he claimed to have, and that when his earthly course was finished the authority descended upon Brigham Young, who was likewise a prophet; that he in turn was properly succeeded by the various presidents of the Church; but who claim that the present head has gone astray. This class is especially dangerous to those who are not thoroughly grounded in the faith, and are dependent upon men for their testimonies; but there is no more occasion for the faithful being led into error by the sophistry of men than there was anciently. It always has been more or less difficult for the world to appreciate a man's greatness or to acknowledge his divine calling as long as he was in their midst. It is not less difficult in this day than formerly. The Savior said that a prophet is not without honor except in his own country. He must be separated from the people by great distances or by many years to obtain a prophetic title from the world at large. Man's nature has not changed during the last twenty centuries, neither has God's eternal truth. The way is as plain now as it ever was; it is as easy to know the truth now as it was when the Savior ministered among men. But of one thing we may be sure: It is no safer now, in attempting to find the way, to follow the guidance of those who honor the dead and villify the living than it was formerly.

THE LATTER-DAY PROPHET.

BY ELDER GEORGE ALBERT SMITH, OF THE QUORUM OF THE TWELVE APOSTLES.

ON the 23rd of December 1905, in Windsor County, Vermont, near the town of Sharon, a monument will be dedicated to the memory of Joseph Smith, who was born there just one hundred years ago. This tribute of love and esteem has been erected by the Church founded by him in the year 1830, under the direction of our Heavenly Father.

Born in obscurity, and his boyhood days spent amid adversity, his thirty-eight and one half years of life in this sphere of action were full of activity, and the experiences through which he passed are marvelous to contemplate.

His faith in God led him away from the belief, common in his day, that the Bible contained all the revelation possible for men to receive, and that the heavens were sealed over his head. He prayed to the Lord, and his prayer was answered. He beheld the Father and the Son descending to earth surrounded with glorious light. He received an indisputable knowledge that they had tabernacles like men, and that they were material personages; they spoke to him and he heard their voices.

This humble child, not yet fifteen years of age received a manifestation that has had a remarkable effect upon Christendom, and the truth revealed through him is destined to spread until all mankind have had an opportunity to accept or reject it.

Chosen by the Master, and endowed with power from on high, this unknown boy began his life's labor that was to end finally by sealing his testimony with his blood.

Abused and misrepresented though he was, despised by those who should have been his friends, opposed by the learned and scholarly men of the time, he succeeded in restoring the Gospel of life and salvation and establishing the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

While the powers of evil were ever active for his destruction, he was preserved by the Lord until his work was finished and all the keys and ordinances necessary for the salvation of the human family had again been delivered to men.

Possessed of a strong physique and great moral courage, he endured many hardships that would have daunted a less determined man.

After organizing the Church and setting all the quorums in order, he was impressed that he was nearing the end. Solicitous for the welfare of the Saints, he gave much valuable instruction intended to safeguard them from apostacy after he was gone. In a discourse delivered in the grove opposite the Temple in Nauvoo, he warned the people that should trouble arise with reference to the leadership of the Church, if they would follow the records and a majority of the Twelve they would be safe.

His ministry was short but successful. He was dearly loved by his friends and hated intensely by his enemies. His prophetic utterances have been fulfilled, and a testimony of the divinity of his mission has been received by hundreds of thousands of honorable men and women in the earth. Through him the Priesthood was restored, and by its power miracles have been wrought for the blessing of those having faith in the promises of Jehovah. Those officiating in this Priesthood have witnessed the recognition of their acts by the Lord, Who has fulfilled their promises upon those receiving them, thereby ratifying the authority of His servants.

Through him was revealed temple building, the eternity of the marriage covenant, and salvation for the dead, bringing unspeakable joy to thousands of our Father's children.

The eternal truths enunciated by him are finding their way among the peoples of the earth, bringing peace and contentment to those who accept them. As one who has received a witness of the truth of the work, I do here testify that I know it is from the Lord, that it is the power of God unto salvation unto all those who believe and obey. I do also testify that he was divinely called to usher in the dispensation of the fulness of times, and that his mission was successful. On the centennial anniversary of his birth I rejoice with all Israel in doing honor to him whom the Father has honored, the Prophet Joseph Smith.

THERE are indelibly fixed in my mind recollections, dating back fifty-seven years ago, when as a beardless boy I was traveling as a missionary in Old England. I often bore testimony concerning Joseph Smith. No matter whether it was by the fireside, in the chapel, hall, or upon the public street, whenever and wherever I did so, I never failed to obtain the Spirit's power in response to such testimony, and more than once it silenced the opponent and even quieted mobs. The true story of his life and labors cannot be penned by mortals. And the future alone will disclose the grand and God-like results proceeding therefrom.—JOSEPH E. TAYLOR.

THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS' MILLENNIAL STAR.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1905.

EDITORIAL

LIVE PROPHETS AND DEAD ONES.

WHY is it that a dead prophet is by mankind generally honored and revered, while a live prophet is despised and rejected? Because depraved human nature has not changed from the days of the beginning until now.

When the Great Teacher said that "A prophet is not without honor, save in his own country, and in his own house," He spoke a truth which the history of the world has demonstrated. That which is near is common place, and oftentimes contemptible. "'Tis distance lends enchantment" to many things, and this seems to be specially true regarding holy men of God who have come to mankind with a message.

God's prophets in days of old were not the special favorites of their time. Paul the Apostle says of them that they were mocked and scourged, were bound and imprisoned. "They were stoned, they were sawn asunder, were tempted, were slain with the sword; they wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins; being destitute, afflicted, tormented; (of whom the world was not worthy:)" and likewise when the greatest of all prophets came—even He who was more than a prophet, He received the same treatment. What was He? asked His neighbors. "Is not this the carpenter's son? is not his mother called Mary?" Does He not look like the rest of us? Yea, "he hath no form or comeliness. . . . and there is no beauty that we should desire him"; and so He was esteemed not, but was "despised and rejected of men."

The Lord sent a prophet in our day to usher in the dispensation of the fulness of times, and what was the result? History repeating itself. What! exclaimed the world, a prophet! The ancient worthies which we read about were, no doubt, all right in their time and place, but to talk about a prophet in this age of steam and electricity is mere nonsense. Why, prophets were men in outlandish dress with long hair and gray beards who went about with clasped hands and eyes raised to heaven. Let us see this modern prophet, and find out whether or not he agrees with our conceptions of what a prophet should be.

They found a young man bearing a very common name—Joseph Smith. He was tall and strong, with light hair, blue eyes, and cleanly shaven face. His dress was quite modern. There was nothing sanctimonious or particularly pious either in his mien or apparel. He was full of life and

activity; there was nothing about him suggestive of the ancient patriarchal past, but he lived in the present, and reflected in his cheerful face the sunlight of the heavens above him. He delighted to jump, run, and wrestle, and he even played ball with the boys. What! exclaimed the over-pious, is this a Prophet? Nonsense! he is an imposter. Away with him! away with him to his death!

And so even to-day there lives a prophet of God through whom the Lord speaks to the Church. He is a man with the frailties of mortality. Men may see him and hear his voice, and perchance, if they seek for them, may learn of his weaknesses. Yet he is God's prophet to all the world to-day. The world does not believe it, many do not know it, yet it is true, and we who both know and believe may well be grateful that prophets are not merely historical personages of the past, but are living realities of the present.

To the contemporaries of Enoch, that prophet was a very important personage, though they might not have known it; to the children of Israel, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, each in their day and time, were of the utmost consequence; to the Jews of Christ's time, John the Baptist was a special messenger; to our fathers, Joseph Smith and his doctrines were the immediate concern of their lives; to us who are living now, the present prophet, Joseph F. Smith, is the reality with which we may come in touch and through whom we may receive the word and will of the Lord.

The only true way to respect the dead prophets is by honoring the live ones. These servants of the Lord form links in a chain. All are important to the plan of salvation designed for this world from its beginning to its end, but the essentially important one to us is he who is living *now* and *here*. The link that touches us is the one by which we may come in contact with the whole. If, with eyes on that which is distant, we spurn that which lies near, we are apt to stumble and perchance fall to our destruction.

N. A.

THE table of contents for volume 67 of the STAR will be sent next week. It will consist of separate sheets, so that the regular amount of reading will not be curtailed.

THE business management of the Liverpool office take pleasure in acknowledging the many kindnesses of the firm of Ramsden and Co., Liverpool. Mr. John O. Roberts, their manager, recently made a liberal contribution to the Stockholm, Sweden, meeting-house fund.

LAST week's issue of the STAR consisted of eleven thousand copies, all of which have been disposed of. This week's edition is also a large one. The picture of Hyrum Smith, which is given to every regular subscriber, is among the finest that has ever been issued of the Patriarch.

THIS number of the STAR marks the close of the sixty-seventh volume. Fifty-two times during the past year it has entered the homes of the Saints in Great Britain, and we hope it has been a welcome and blessing-laden guest. We hope the STAR's influence for good will continue to spread to an ever widening circle among the people of Great Britain.

Releases.—Elder Alpha J. Higgs of the Liverpool office is honorably released to return home December 28, 1905, per s.s. *Cymric*. Elder Higgs' efficient labors as accountant of the Liverpool office have been very much appreciated. Elder David H. Candland of the Birmingham conference is honorably released to return home on the same date.

REASONABLENESS OF MODERN REVELATION.

BY ELDER HENRY E. BLOOD, RECENTLY PRESIDENT OF THE LONDON CONFERENCE.

It is a simple story, that of the Prophet Joseph Smith's first vision—the story of a boy praying in trusting faith, and of the Father hearing the prayer and answering it. There is nothing in it that should surprise anyone who believes at all in God; nothing that is contrary to what the ancient Scriptures tell us of His manner of dealing with men. If the story had found place in the Bible, not one of those who now denounce it as false would ever have questioned its literal truthfulness. It is not a question with them of facts, but of dates. That there were heavenly visitations nineteen hundred, or twenty-five hundred years ago, is believable and right; but heavenly visitations now are impossible, they declare; it is blasphemy to speak of them.

Yet, why? Holy Writ from Genesis to Revelation abounds with instances quite as marvelous as this modern appearance of the Father and the Son. Does the fact that inspired historians and apostles perished, and the writing of Scripture ceased, seal the mouth of God forever? Men do well to demand strong proofs of any claims of heavenly manifestations; but it is worse than folly to declare that such manifestations are impossible. And to say that we do not need them is to presumptuously assume that the Father has nothing more to teach us. This is a serious error. The Lord has yet many things to tell His children, and it is still true that man should live by "every word that *proceedeth* (not *hath proceeded*) out of the mouth of God."

The Prophet's testimony of a living Father and a personal Savior has brought joy and hope to many honest hearts the world over. Scarcely a nation under heaven but has heard it told. It has made known again the forgotten truth that God is our Father in deed as well as in name. Nothing more important could possibly have been revealed; for we have the Savior's assurance that it "is life eternal, that they might know thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou has sent." Through Joseph Smith was given to the world anew that knowledge of the personality, and purposes, and commands of God without which it is impossible to adequately serve Him.

These new truths have thrilled many repentant and obedient hearts in widely separated nations, and God has sealed upon them abiding testimonies. Not in the mouths of two or three witnesses only is the divinity of Joseph Smith's mission established, but in the combined testimony of nearly three hundred thousand honest men and women, who know, because the Holy Spirit whispers it to their souls, that he was called of God. What an array of evidence this is in support of the claims made by the Latter-day Saints! The point should be emphasized, too, that no one can disprove this testimony. The man does

not live who can honestly say that he knows Joseph Smith was not called of God. He may not believe it; he may honestly disbelieve it, and in mistaken zeal he may rail against, denounce and persecute those who bear the testimony; but he can go no further. His disbelief, the disbelief and ridicule of the whole world, does not destroy the force of one humble testimony, which stands unimpeached, because it is unimpeachable.

The Gospel revealed through the Prophet Joseph is true, and, being true, will survive all opposition. The testimonies he bore, sealed as they are by a martyr's blood, and supported by equally solemn declarations of those who have embraced the restored Gospel, are in force upon the world. God grant they may be heard and heeded by the honest everywhere.

TRIBUTE TO JOSEPH THE SEER.

BY ELDER ALEXANDER BUCHANAN, JR., FORMER ASSOCIATE EDITOR OF THE
"MILLENNIAL STAR."

JOSEPH SMITH! The mere mention of the name thrills me. Who was he that I should thus sense a feeling of awe as I think of him? Why does my hand tremble as I write of him? What was there in his personality that should cause me to hesitate as I approach his shrine? Was he not as other men? Had he no weaknesses as others have? Why, then, this nervousness, this peculiar twitching of the limbs as I proceed to pay him humble tribute?

View him as you will, Joseph Smith was no ordinary man. True, he was of humble origin, yet "his life was gentle, and the elements so mixed in him, that nature might stand up and say to all the world, 'This was a man.'" No grander tribute could be paid him than that comprehended in the success attending the work he inaugurated. "Mormonism," so-called, is an enduring monument to his memory. It bears record of his divine calling. It points to him as one of the greatest characters of the age. Lay aside his claim to prophetic powers, and you still have a man who has done more, perhaps, with the exception of Jesus Christ, to revolutionize the trend of religious thought and conduct, than any individual that ever lived. The work he established was based on the principle of revelation. So was that established by the Lord Jesus. Yet the world stood aghast when Joseph Smith announced a vision. Such a thing was monstrous, ridiculous, people said.

Nothing daunted, however, the boy maintained his position. He had had a vision; he knew it and naught could change it. Subsequent events proved the truth of that declaration. He published to the world a record sparkling with gems of truth. He laid bare the history of the ancient people of the American continent, and invited the historian, the scientist, the geologist, to disprove the statements therein contained. Through this medium he gave to the world a key to many so-called mysterious scriptural problems, and opened the door of the Gospel to many who hitherto were unbelievers. His was a life of unsullied devotion to the work of God. His message was one of emancipation, of freedom from bondage, breathing as it did "the perfect law of liberty" to all men. His mission was one of self-abnegation. It contained not the least elements of avarice, of worldly gain. It pointed the way of life

and invited the world to partake of its saving qualities. Persecuted, oppressed, his people driven from their homes and cast into prison, the prophet remained firm to his testimony of the truth, trusting in God for a complete and final vindication of the right. No wonder Josiah Quincy declared: "It is by no means improbable that some future text-book for the use of generations yet unborn, will contain a question something like this: 'What historical American of the nineteenth century has exerted the most powerful influence upon the destinies of his countrymen?' And it is by no means improbable that the answer to that interrogatory may thus be written: 'Joseph Smith, the Mormon Prophet!'" This man sacrificed his all for the message entrusted to his care, and at the age of thirty-nine years, with his devoted brother Hyrum, sealed his testimony with his blood, as a witness to all mankind that God had spoken from the heavens in the latter days. To-day the work he established is strong and powerful. The principles he advocated are being felt for good, while half a million honest-hearted souls unite in the testimony that Joseph Smith was indeed a Prophet of God. On this hundredth anniversary of his birth, let all Zion rejoice, for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth!

"Praise to the man who communed with Jehovah,
 Jesus anointed 'that Prophet and Seer,'
 Blessed to open the last dispensation,
 Kings shall extol him and nations revere."

THE UNEXPECTED HAPPENS.

BY HENRY J. LILLEY, OF KARACHI, INDIA

THE aphorism that the unexpected happens, though not literally true generally, is true in one sense or another of prophecy, true or false. In the case of the false prophet, his pretended revelation of events that are still in the womb of the future must necessarily take the shape of what he expects those events will be, and the test that stamps him as a false prophet is the happening of the unexpected. On the other hand, it is perhaps the most important characteristic of true prophecy that the events foretold are not such as could ordinarily have been anticipated, and the fulfillment of the prophecy is in this sense the happening of the unexpected, notwithstanding that the unexpected was foretold. It is this characteristic that forms the basis of scriptural criterion of prophecy. "And if thou say in thine heart, How shall we know the word which the Lord hath not spoken? When a prophet speaketh in the name of the Lord, if the thing follow not, nor come to pass, that is the thing which the Lord hath not spoken, but the prophet hath spoken it presumptuously: thou shalt not be afraid of him." (Deut. xviii: 21, 22). The presumptuous prophet is repudiated by the happening of what he did not expect; the inspired prophet is vindicated by the occurrence of what could not ordinarily have been expected.

To this test the prophetic utterances, made directly by word of mouth or indirectly by translating the Book of Mormon and other ancient records by Joseph Smith, the first of the line of prophets of the latter days, have been

put by each individual who has investigated the message with which he was entrusted; and the hundreds of thousands of members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints are a visible testimony that just so many times has he answered to the test, and his inspiration been established.

Not that it is essential that a prophet should foretell future events. There are those in the world who do not realize that there may be men filling the office of prophet to whom the veil of the future has never once been raised in this earthly existence; there are those who cannot conceive of any other test of a prophet than "to spit on him and to cover his face and to buffet him, and to say unto him, Prophesy." But it is a popular fallacy to associate the idea of a prophet exclusively with the gift of piercing at will the veil of the future. Such an idea is neither scriptural, for "prophecy came not in old time by the will of man, but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost," nor according to human wisdom, for experience teaches that nothing is more conducive to unhappiness than the knowledge, or the fancied knowledge, of what is in store for a man. Nevertheless, prophecy is one of the choicest gifts of the Holy Spirit, and we find the Apostle Paul exhorting the Saints of his day: "Desire spiritual gifts, but rather that ye may prophesy." (I Cor. xiv: 1). And when, in the inscrutable dispensations of the Father it is necessary for the welfare of His children to disclose the future, then "the Lord God will do nothing but He revealeth his secret unto His servants the prophets," and then may we expect to find the utterances of His servants the prophets verified by the event.

In the category of fulfilled prophecy we must place not only those made by the Prophet Joseph Smith, but those made of him. The celebration of the centennial anniversary of his birth, participated in, as it will be, by people of so many different races and kindreds and tongues and nations, can hardly fail to cause the mind to picture the contrast it affords with the humbleness and obscurity of the birth which is commemorated. From that contrast it is a natural transition for the mind to turn to that remarkable chain of angelic prophecies that ushered in the dispensation of the fulness of the times, one item of which was the prediction of just such an event, that his name shall be known amongst the nations, with the righteous it shall be had in honor, and with the wicked in reproach. Than the literal fulfillment of this prophecy there can hardly be a more striking example of the happening of the unexpected to vindicate prophetic words.

But for the important mission with which he was entrusted there is no reason to suppose that the Prophet would have ever been heard of by the nations of the world any more than the many other individuals who have borne the very common name that was his. Even if he did earn worldly fame, it was not probable that his name would have excited universal love side by side with universal odium. To realize how utterly impossible it is for the human mind to have expected these results we have but to take the case of the most promising son of any laboring man that comes within the circle of our acquaintance—your own self, perhaps—and estimate the probabilities of his establishing a world-wide reputation. Is it not as much as can be expected, judging from the general experience, that his name will hardly become known beyond the nearest market town? That it will be heard by his own

nation, and by the other nations of the world, is one chance in many millions. But even if in so far the unexpected did happen, the spread of his name would, to meet the requirements of the prediction, still have to be attended with a rousing of diametrically opposed sentiments in the hearts of men of different classes. There are many famous names known throughout the world, some of which have forged ahead from obscurity, but in every case, beyond the local circle of love or hate they evoked, they are merely abstract names, the hearing of which meets with perfect indifference, or at the best, but creates either a feeling of admiration or contempt—a feeling, that is, in which the heart takes no part. The case of Joseph Smith is unique. Never in the history of the world has there been a name (except it be that of the Savior Himself) that has aroused such mixed feelings of honor and reproach wherever it has been carried. In short, to no other individual would the angel Moroni's prophecy be equally applicable. The knowledge of his name is coterminous with the spread of the true and everlasting Gospel, which already comprises all the most prominent nations of the world, and the spirit that leads to the acceptance or rejection of the message with which he was entrusted seems to end in engendering a feeling of love or hate for the chosen messenger personally.

Standing, as we do, at the vantage point of a century after his birth, and more than half a century after his martyrdom, we are in a position to realize the marvelous unfolding of these unexpected, albeit predicted events, and as year after year is added to the past, the realization becomes clearer and clearer as the field of vision enlarges.

THE REVELATION OF THE TRUE GOD.

BY ELDER JOSEPH E. ROBINSON, PRESIDENT OF THE CALIFORNIA MISSION.

THE Redeemer of the world said: "And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent." (John xvii: 3.)

As eternal life is the greatest boon that can come to man, how eminently essential it is then that men should have a proper conception of the true God and Christ His Son.

Anciently, polytheism prevailed—now monotheism, and although God revealed Himself in the flesh in Jesus Christ, Who was in the "express image of His Father's person," so much so that He told Philip, "He that hath seen me hath seen the Father," yet, the so-called "wise and prudent men" of the earth have established a dogmatic creed that hides the personality of God in an indefinite, intangible, uncreate, incomprehensible, and unknowable vagary.

How then shall men obtain this knowledge so necessary for their future good? What kind of a Being is He whom an angel was to herald in the last days, "saying with a loud voice, Fear God and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters"? Whose hand will part the curtains of spiritual darkness and make Him known? "To whom hath the arm of the Lord been revealed?" Who will show us the way to know Him so that poor, "wayfaring men, though fools, shall not err therein"?

God hath said, "The wisdom of their wise men shall perish, and the understanding of their prudent men shall be hid," and that He "hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise, and the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty."

Who is it God hath chosen? In answer to these questions, methinks I hear a hundred thousand voices cry: "*Joseph Smith, the Prophet!*" And so it is. God, the Father, and Christ the Son revealed themselves to him, perfect in their own personalities—separate in identity, alike in form, one in purpose. And, lo! man is fashioned after them, and is to be like them when perfected.

The dogmas of men are overturned, the springs of living water are set flowing free. Men again know their divine parentage and their God-like destiny.

"In confidence they now draw nigh,
And Father, Abba, Father cry."

And so by Joseph the Prophet, God is revealed. By Hyrum the Patriarch, and the priesthood he held, men are sealed up to everlasting life. And thus men again know the "only true God and Jesus Christ whom He hath sent," and so eternal life is within their grasp.

Oh! the infinite love and mercy of God to again reveal Himself and give His priesthood to man. Oh! the wondrous worth and blessedness of the martyred Prophet and Patriarch by whom these blessings came. Awake, ye kindreds of the earth and sing:

"Praise to the man who communed with Jehovah,
Jesus anointed that Prophet and Seer.
Blessed to open the last dispensation,
Kings shall extol him and nations revere."

TESTIMONY FROM SCANDINAVIA.

BY JENS M. CHRISTENSEN, PRESIDENT OF THE SCANDINAVIAN MISSION.

JOSEPH SMITH was chosen of God, instructed and educated by the Lord Jesus Christ and other heavenly beings, from whom he obtained a knowledge which the world could not give him—which was the way to obtain eternal life in the presence of our Redeemer. Through him was the Priesthood restored, the kingdom of God established, and His Church again organized upon the earth after the original pattern, with all the blessings, keys, and powers enjoyed by the Saints in former days—together with the gathering of Israel, the building of temples, and the administering of holy ordinances therein according to the revealed will of the Lord.

The fruits of his teachings are seen on every hand and in many lands. In the Scandinavian countries alone over seventeen hundred missionaries from Zion have labored, preaching the true Gospel of Christ. They have made over forty thousand converts, besides bearing their testimonies to tens of thousands of others. Twenty-five thousand have emigrated to the gathering place of the Saints, where most of them have acquired comfortable homes of their own, and enjoy many other blessings, together with their children and

grand-children, who enjoy the benefits of the most modern institutions of learning, including instructions in true theology. The teachings of this great prophet have affected other creeds, causing their professors to see the inconsistency of some of their man-made doctrines, and therefore these doctrines have been shaped more nearly in accord with intelligent reasoning.

JOSEPH THE BLEST.

For the music to this poem see JUVENILE INSTRUCTOR for November 1, 1905.

Father of life and light,
 In heaven above,
 This world Thou makest bright,
 Warmed by Thy love.
 While all the meek rejoice,
 Let every heart and voice
 Send forth Thy praise,
 Who didst on earth bestow,
 One hundred years ago,
 Joseph, the Prophet dear,
 Joseph, the mighty seer,
 Of latter days!

Joseph, who wisdom sought,
 When but a child;
 Whom God and Jesus taught,
 Truth undefiled.
 Joseph by angels led,
 Whose blood for truth was shed,
 Mid error's strife;
 Hyrum the faithful, too,
 Patriarch staunch and true,
 Firm by his brother stood,
 Gave all that mortal could,
 His noble life!

Roll centuries quickly by,
 Hasten Thy time:
 Let the glad Gospel cry
 Fill every clime.
 Thou wilt no soul neglect,
 Gather Thine own elect
 Home to Thy rest;
 Bid doubt and error cease,
 Bring in Thy reign of peace;
 Let the pure as reward,
 Meet with their Savior Lord—
 Joseph, the blest!

L. L. G. RICHARDS.

CONTENTS:

Patriarch Hyrum Smith	...	...	818	Releases	...	...	...	...	826
Distinctive Teachings of Joseph Smith	819	Reasonableness of Modern Revelation	826						
One Prophecy	...	...	820	Tribute to Joseph the Seer	...	...	827		
History Repeating Itself	...	...	821	The Unexpected Happens	...	...	828		
The Latter-day Prophet	...	...	822	The Revelation of the True God	...	...	830		
Editorial: Live Prophets and Dead Ones	824	Testimony from Scandinavia	...	...	831				
Editorial Notes	...	...	825	Poetry: Joseph the Blest	...	...	832		

EDITED, PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HEBER J. GRANT, 10 HOLLY ROAD
 LIVERPOOL:

FOR SALE IN ALL THE CONFERENCES OF THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST
 OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS IN GREAT BRITAIN.